

Message Text

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66

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 ORM-02 DHA-02

/064 W

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R 302105Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6363

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 8719

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, CI, UK, PINT, PFOR

SUBJ: DR. SHEILA CASSIDY, BRITISH SUBJECT

REF: SANTIAGO 8639

1. DR. CASSIDY LEFT SANTIAGO DECEMBER 29 AT 1600. GOC
GRANTED HER A COURTESY SAFE CONDUCT TO DEPART CHILE BUT
PROHIBITED HER RETURN.

2. BRITISH DCM TOLD EMBOFF THAT GOC HAD COOPERATED FULLY
IN DEPARTURE. SAID TWO BRITISH PRESS REPRESENTATIVES
WERE WITH HER ON FLIGHT TO LONDON, AND THOUGHT PRESS WAS
READY TO GIVE HER STORY MAJOR COVERAGE.

3. UK OFFICER SAID PUBLIC REASONS GOC GAVE FOR DELAYING
CASSIDY'S DEPARTURE EXTRA FEW DAYS WERE COMPLETELY
UNJUSTIFIED, AND UK FOREIGN OFFICE WOULD BE FOLLOWING UP
FORCEFULLY WITH GOC.

4. COMMENT: WITH DR. CASSIDY'S DEPARTURE, ALL THE RELIGIOUS
AND LAY PEOPLE WHO WERE ARRESTED FOR AIDING FUGITIVE EXTREMISTS
IN LATE OCT.-EARLY NOV. HAVE NOW BEEN LIBERATED. WHILE THOSE
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DETAINED HAD ACTED OUT OF HUMANITARIAN MOTIVES, GOC REGARDED

THEIR INVOLVEMENT WITH EXTREMISTS AS CLEARLY SUBVERSIVE AND AS SUCH PUNISHABLE UNDER LONG-STANDING CHILEAN LAWS. GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO RELEASE ALL OF THEM REFLECTED ITS RECOGNITION OF THE SERIOUS POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES WHICH WOULD HAVE FOLLOWED THEIR PROLONGED INCARCERATION.

5. AT THE SAME TIME, HARD-LINERS IN GOC MANAGED TO OBSTRUCT RELEASE OF MOST OF THOSE INVOLVED LONG ENOUGH TO INCUR WIDESPREAD CRITICISM FROM FOREIGN OBSERVERS. AS REGARDS DR. CASSIDY IN PARTICULAR, GOC RELATIONS WITH UK WILL UNDOUBTEDLY FALL TO NEW LOW AS DETAILS OF HER TREATMENT BY CHILEANS SURFACE.

POPPER

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Message Attributes

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